Engaging the Public in Research on Bat Behaviors

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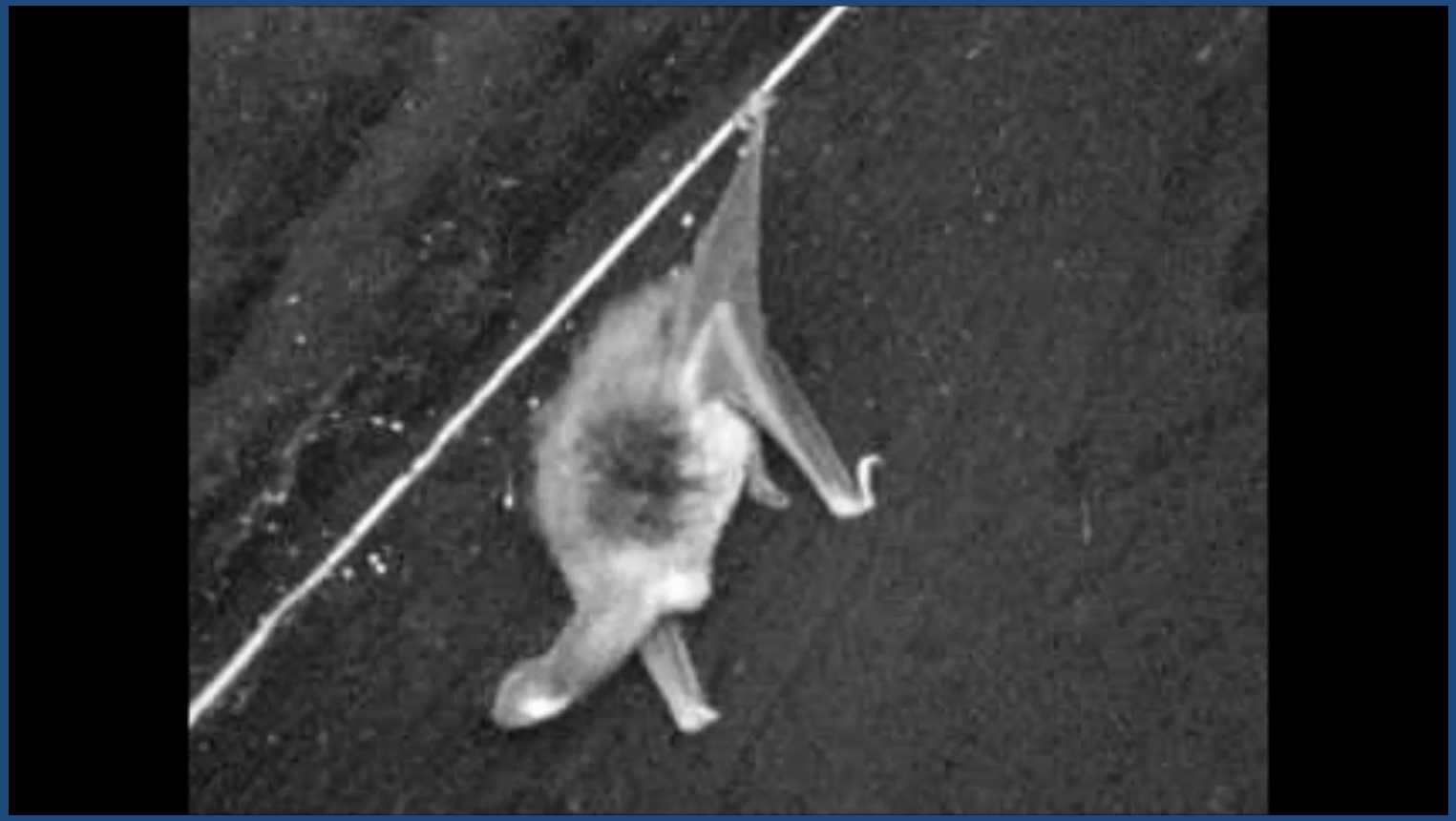
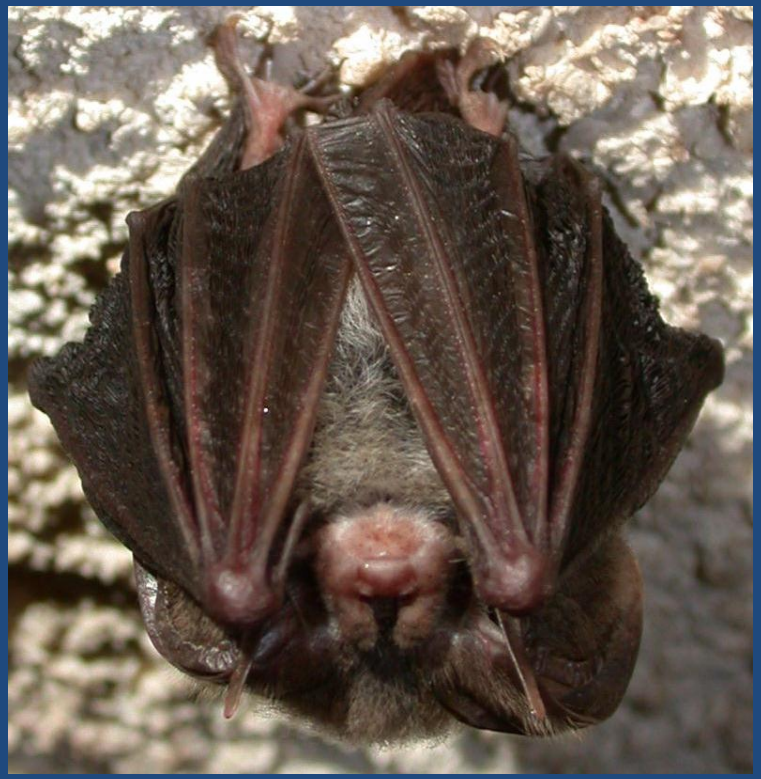
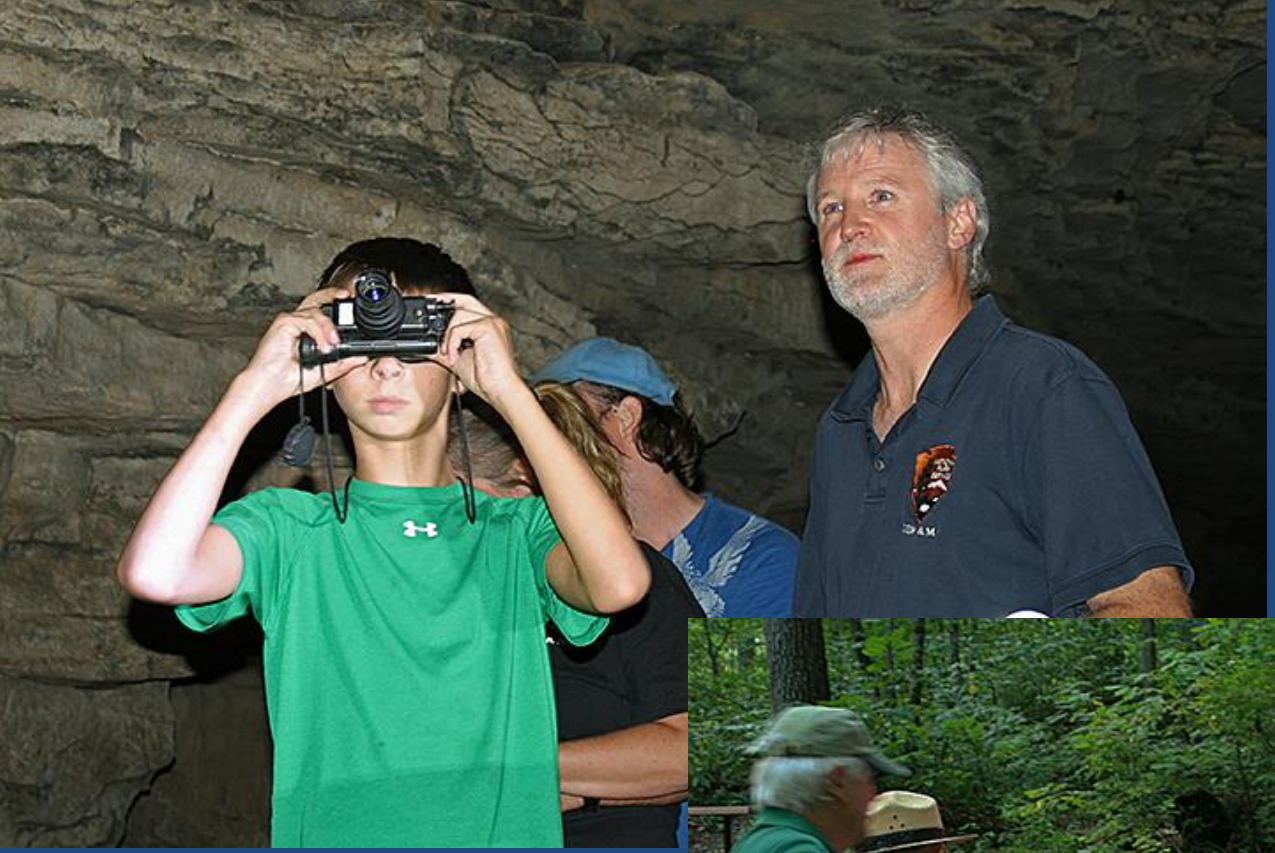




Males weigh approximately

Females weigh approximately



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Citizen Science

- Public and scientists collaborating together to conduct research
- Several bat acoustic projects across U.S. and at least one in Europe
- Developing new, online, National Science Foundation-funded project studying bat behaviors

Challenges for Bat Behavior Research

- Bats are small and fly away
- Foraging happens at night
- Easy to disturb bats in a roost
- Technology glitches
- Time consuming

How the Project Will Work

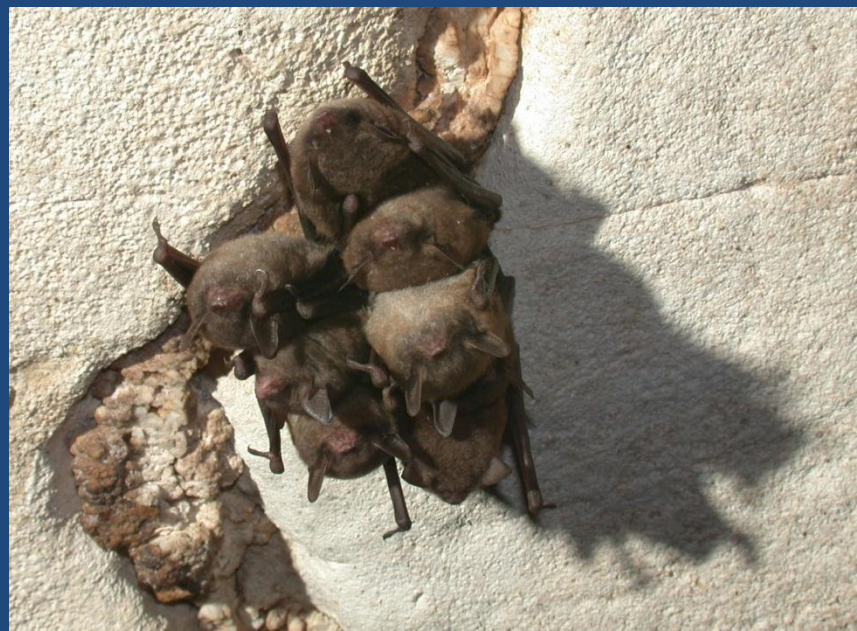
- Log onto website and create an account
- Go through short training session
- Watch videos and identify behaviors
- Discussion boards available to share interesting videos, ask questions, interact with researchers, educators, and citizen scientists
- Links to social media outlets
- QAQC performed on each season's videos
- Able to search for specific behaviors

Where Are We?

- Surveying researchers – almost done
- Identifying behaviors – next month or so
- Developing website – this summer and fall
- Surveying potential participants – this summer

Where Do We Want to Go?

- Add additional locations
- Add additional behaviors (summer roost, hibernacula)
- Translate into multiple languages



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Award number: 1223908

Questions?
Comments?
Thoughts?

Please let us know if you would like to learn more or participate in this project.